

Report on Rigorous Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague

Student:	Mgr. Gledis Kazazi
Advisor:	Roman Horváth, Ph.D.
Title of the thesis:	Interest Rate Pass-Through: Does It Change with Financial Distress? The Czech Experience

OVERALL ASSESSMENT (provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):

The thesis tackles empirically the policy relevant issue of the changes of monetary transmission mechanism in the Czech Republic. More specifically, it is a comprehensive empirical investigation of the interest rate pass-through and its changes during the 2008-2009 global financial crisis.

Gledis work is a contribution to the policy discussions on monetary policy in the Czech Republic. The thesis is well-organized, estimations well-executed and literature appropriately cited. Actually, some parts of thesis are original contribution to this stream of literature. Researchers within this stream typically estimate the pass-through from domestic money market rates into domestic bank interest rate. Gledis's approach is more general and examines the both the role of domestic as well as foreign money market rates pass-through into domestic bank interest rate. I haven't seen any paper within such general setting in the literature. As compared to her MA thesis, a more thorough discussion of monetary policy transmission channels is presented.

Therefore, I strongly recommend the thesis for the defense and suggest grade 1.

SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED (for details, see below):

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	18
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	30
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	29
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	18
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	95
GRADE (1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	1

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Roman Horváth, Ph.D.

DATE OF EVALUATION: February 24, 2011

Referee Signature

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:

LITERATURE REVIEW: *The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.*

Strong Average Weak
20 10 0

METHODS: *The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. The thesis topic is comprehensively analyzed.*

Strong Average Weak
30 15 0

CONTRIBUTION: *The author presents original ideas on the topic demonstrating critical thinking and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics. There is a distinct value added of the thesis.*

Strong Average Weak
30 15 0

MANUSCRIPT FORM: *The thesis is well structured. The student uses appropriate language and style, including academic format for graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables and disposes with a complete bibliography.*

Strong Average Weak
20 10 0

Overall grading:

TOTAL POINTS	GRADE		
81 – 100	1	= excellent	= výborně
61 – 80	2	= good	= velmi dobře
41 – 60	3	= satisfactory	= dobře
0 – 40	4	= fail	= nedoporučuji k obhajobě